

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges that claims 3, 4 and 15-18 are allowed.

Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 without prejudice. Applicant has amended claims 5, 6 and 12. The claims remaining in the application are therefore claims 3-12 and 15-20.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5-14, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The Examiner stated that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as set forth in the Office Action. The Examiner further stated that if claim 6 were rewritten to address this rejection that claims 19 and 20 would also be allowable as they depend from claim 6.

In response, Applicant has amended claim 6 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion by changing the wording "fixedly connecting" to - - adapted to fixedly connect - -. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim no longer suggests that the bracket and rail connector are both "slidingly movable" and "fixed" to each other at the same time. Applicant submits that the amendment has overcome the rejection of the claim under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph and that, consequently, claim 6 and therefore claims 19 and 20 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant has amended claims 5 and 12 by changing their dependency from claim 1 to allowed claim 3. Claim 12 has also been amended by adding the word - - bracket - - before the phrase "rear wall" in line 2 of the claim in order to distinguish between the rear wall of the rail connector and the rear wall of the bracket. Claims 7-11

depend from claim 5. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that claims 5 and 7-12 are also allowable as being dependent from an allowed base claim.

Finally, Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 without prejudice in order to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicant will be filing a continuation application to attempt to obtain allowance of these claims.

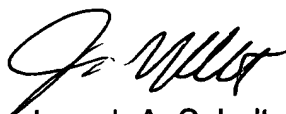
The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5 and 7-14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Francis (4,767,232). In response, Applicant states that claims 1, 2, 13 and 14 have been canceled and the dependencies of claims 5 and 12, and consequently of claims 8-11 have been changed from claim 1 to allowed claim 3 and that consequently claims 5 and 8-12 no longer fall under this rejection.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims remaining in this application, namely claims 3-12 and 15-20 are all in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits early issuance of a Notice of Allowability with respect to the same.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the above matters, he is invited to call the undersigned at (330) 244-1174.

Respectfully submitted at Canton, Ohio this 22ND day of NOVEMBER, 2005.

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